

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 95-1081-E - ORDER NO. 95-1451 ✓
AUGUST 18, 1995

IN RE: Request of Duke Power Company for) ORDER RULING ON
Approval of Revisions to its) PROPOSED REVISIONS
Regulations Leafs D and E.) TO REGULATIONS

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the May 15, 1995 request of Duke Power Company (Duke or the Company) for revisions to its Service Regulations Leaf D and E. Under Leaf D, Duke has requested approval of a meter test fee of \$40.00 for self-contained meters, and \$55.00 for all other meters. The current fee is \$15.00 which no longer covers the cost of the testing. Since customers can request and receive a meter test once a year, at no charge, Duke states its belief that it is appropriate to recover the cost for more frequent testing from the requesting customer. Duke states that if a meter tested under such conditions is found to be registering inaccurately, the fee would not be charged.

Duke also proposes adding to Leaf E an additional paragraph describing conditions under which bills are prorated. According to Duke, this is not a change of practice but a clarification of billing procedures.

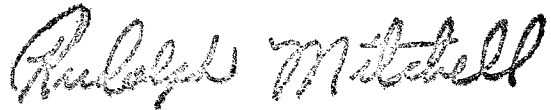
Duke also proposes to add a sentence to Leaf E in the section titled Interference With Company Property to clarify that customers who have used electricity without authorization will be charged for unauthorized usage, inspection (if necessary), investigation, and reconnection. According to Duke, this provision is consistent with Commission Rule 103-339.

The Commission has examined the requests for revisions of the Regulations, and believes that these should be approved with the exception of the meter test fees of \$40.00 for self-contained meters, and \$55.00 for all other meters. The Commission agrees that \$15.00 no longer covers the cost of testing in all probability, however, Duke has failed to furnish any cost data on how the \$40.00 and \$55.00 figures were calculated. In the interest of attempting to compensate Duke for its meter tests, we believe that \$30.00 for self-contained meters, and \$40.00 for all other meters would be more appropriate meter test fees. The customer would still receive a free meter test once per year at no charge, and these fees would be available to Duke to charge for more frequent testing from the requesting customer. We agree with the proposition that if a meter tested under certain conditions is found to be registering inaccurately, the fee would not be charged. We hold that the remainder of the proposed changes are hereby approved as filed.

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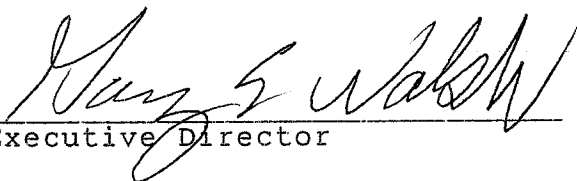
This Order shall remain in full force and effect until
further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:



Chairman

ATTEST:


Deputy Executive Director

(SEAL)